

## Vital Statistics

### **BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS**



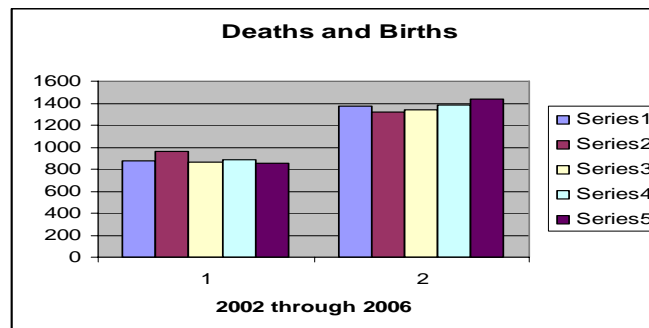
#### Executive Summary

The vital statistics department houses the local registrar responsible for issuing certified copies of the birth (after 1929) and death records occurring in Chelan and Douglas counties. Burial-transit permits are also issued to funeral homes when the death certificate is approved and signed by the local registrar. Chelan-Douglas Health District is the only location in our two counties where these documents can be issued.

#### 2006 Statistics

- 5,177 certified copies of death certificates were issued in 2006, compared to 5,280 in 2005.
- 3,893 certified copies of birth certificates were issued in 2006, compared to 3,597 in 2005.

Maintaining birth and death records in Chelan and Douglas counties is a function of the vital statistics department. Following is an approximation of births and deaths in our two counties for the past five years.



Year	Deaths	% Difference	Births	% Difference
2002	879	9% increase	1,374	3% decrease
2003	966	10% increase	1,315	4% decrease
2004	863	10% decrease	1,345	2% increase
2005	882	2% increase	1,389	3% increase
2006	858	3% decrease	1,442	4% increase

#### Outstanding Challenges

The Center for Health Statistics has developed an on-line, web-based system that captures and stores death certificate data. The EDRS will replace a labor-intensive, time-consuming, paper-based, manual process with a web system that allows funeral directors, cause-of-death certifiers, local deputy registrars, and state staff to have online input and approval capability. Tacoma–Pierce, Spokane and Benton-Franklin counties are up and running. When the EDRS is implemented here we will be involved in the training of system users.